

**MINUTES OF THE
UTAH INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION**
Tuesday, November 14, 2006– 9:00 a.m. – Room W125 House Building

Members Present:

Sen. Mark B. Madsen, Senate Chair
Rep. Sheryl L. Allen, House Chair
Sen. Brent H. Goodfellow
Rep. Roger E. Barrus
Rep. Jackie Biskupski
Rep. Lorie D. Fowlke
Rep. Brad King
Mr. Brian Farr
Mr. Brett W. Heimburger

Members Absent:

Sen. Carlene Walker
Mr. Miguel R. Rovira

Staff Present:

Mr. Richard C. North, Policy Analyst
Mr. Chris Parker, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Glenda S. Whitney, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1. Commission Business

Chair Madsen called the meeting to order at 9:25 a.m. Sen. Walker and Mr. Rovira were excused from attending the meeting.

MOTION: Rep. King moved to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2006 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Utah International Trade Office: China Initiative

Mr. Brett Heimburger, Utah International Trade Office, presented a slide presentation (China Trade Mission Report) and briefed the Commission on the Governor's recent China trade mission and reported on the accomplishments of the trade mission. He presented an economic overview of China and reviewed the growth in distribution infrastructures and the opportunity for U.S. companies. He noted the trade mission participants as: Natural Products, Infrastructure / IT, Tourism, Manufacturing / Aerospace, and Education. He discussed how the Commission, the Utah World Trade Association, and the World Trade Center - Utah could be involved in the trade initiatives.

Mr. Heimburger explained that the Legislature could be involved with international trade gatherings by meeting with delegations at lunch functions when they visit Utah.

3. International Trade: Utah Businesses

Mr. North noted that several businesses involved in the Governor's recent China trade mission were invited to speak but were back in China. Those businesses offered to present at future meetings.

Mr. Gary B. Goodrich, President and CEO, Propay, presented an overview on his activities during the China trade mission. He stated that the China trade mission was a great opportunity for his company and that it was a tremendously important stepping stone.

4. World Trade Center - Utah

Mr. Lew W. Cramer, President and CEO, World Trade Center - Utah, briefed the Commission on the World Trade Center - Utah and how it is involved in promoting international trade. He attended the China trade mission and shared his experiences, and talked about the need for collaborative relationships between public and private entities. He explained that World Trade Centers provide a central location for trade and commerce to take place.

Mr. Cramer responded to commission questions. He noted the value of the Commission and identified it as a place for education on international trade and provides a forum to study related trade issues related to Utah.

5. Utah International Trade Commission Legislation

Chair Madsen noted that the Commission will automatically Sunset in December 2007 unless re-authorized during the 2007 General Session.

Mr. Chris Parker distributed 2007 General Session draft legislation, "Utah International Trade Commission" to review.

MOTION: Sen. Goodfellow moved to adopt 2007 General Session draft legislation, "Utah International Trade Commission" with the repeal date of 2017, as a Commission bill. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. King absent for the vote.

6. Federal Trade Promotion Authority (Fast Track)

Mr. Derek Brown, Legal Counsel, and Ms. Melanie Bowen, State Director - Utah, from U.S. Senator Orrin Hatch's Office, presented a general overview on the renewal of "Fast Track" trade promotion authority and its current status. He explained that "Fast Track" is given to the president to facilitate trade agreements. Fast Track gives the person who is negotiating a higher level of credibility and authority. He said President Bush has "Fast Track" authority but that is set to expire on June 30, 2007 and the question is if it is going to be renewed.

Ms. Bowen spoke to the issue of Visas and noted that Sen. Hatch's Office is very interested in Visa policy and how it can best serve Utah companies. Their office would like to know of any recommendations by the Commission regarding a more streamlined Visa policy.

7. Utah - U.S. Trade Representative Office Liaison: SPOC (State Point of Contact)

Chair Madsen turned the chair over to Rep. Allen.

Mr. Brett Heimbürger, Utah International Trade Office, said he is the SPOC official for Utah and the federal government. He explained his responsibilities and agreed to provide commission staff notification of any trade communications from the USTR's office.

8. International Trade: Least Burdensome Test

Mr. Chris Parker gave a briefing on a standard in international treaties that may effect existing state statutes and how new statutes may have to be drafted. He explained that the government may be required to take the least burdensome approach when adopting laws that regulate quality of services. The least burdensome test may raise at least two issues: Conflict with traditional legislative compromises; and consideration of a range of interests beyond just quality of services.

9. Other Items / Adjourn

Chair Allen adjourned the meeting at 11:36 a.m.